

# He leaves no stone unturned to keep Rafi's memory alive

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**HAILING** from a lower middle class family, 52-year-old K S Haniffa, popularly known as Haniffa Moonupedika, has only one wish and one dream — to collect records of all the songs rendered by the late legendary singer Mohammed Rafi. Charged by this singular ambition, he has left no stone unturned in his effort to acquire Rafi's songs, be they on compact discs, cassettes or records.

Today, his collection includes 16,000 songs sung by Mohammed Rafi. Haniffa fiercely guards the songs recorded on over 5000 discs and over a hundred cassettes, in his single room recording studio.

Haniffa's passion for Rafi grew after he inherited nearly 2000 music records in 1965 from his father. Instead of joining his father's business, Haniffa decided to travel to different parts of the country in search of Rafi's songs. It was during one such trip in 1978 that he met Rafi at his Mumbai residence.

Admitting his collection is a "small beginning," Haniffa adds he has to travel long way to collect the rest of Rafi's songs.